

April 8, 1999

Lyle D. Jaffe
Dockets Management
FDA/DHHS
12420 Parklawn Dr.
Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

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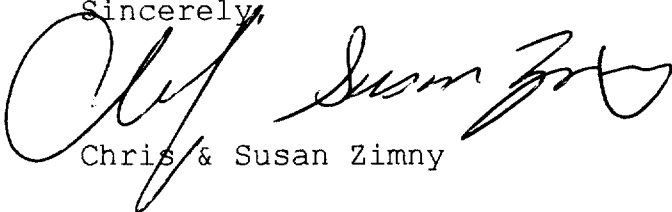
Dear Mr. Jaffe:

We are writing to express our strong support for the petition to ban forced molting of hens (docket 98P-0203/CP). This process is extremely cruel causing extreme pain and suffering to the hens. In order to get the hens to lay another cycle of eggs that their bodies would not normally be able to produce, they are deprived of food and water for at least two weeks, which sends their system into a state of chaos and causes them to lose their feathers quickly. This then leads to another laying cycle. During this process their weakened bodies are extremely susceptible to broken bones, sores and internal bleeding. Normally, hens would spend four months losing and re-growing feathers during which time they would not lay eggs.

We believe there is enough suffering in the factory farming business without this incredibly inhumane process. We hope that the U.S. will join with other western countries that have outlawed forced molting and ban this cruel practice. We respectfully ask that you pass on our concerns along with the other feedback that you get regarding this petition.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

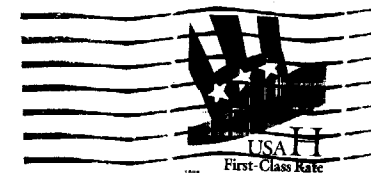


Chris & Susan Zimny

98P-0203

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